IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

Hideji Tajima, et al.

Serial No.: 10/042,373

Filed: December 27, 2001

Title: Carrier Holding Micro-Substances,

System Suspending Such Carriers, Apparatus for Manipulating Such Carriers and Method of Controlling

Positions of Such Carriers

Attorney Docket No. 10287.48

Customer No. 27683

Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: Pensee T. Do.

Confirmation No. 5376

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON DECEMBER 16, 2003

Introductory Comments

The present paper is being submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on December 16, 2003,

This paper amends the claims, but no additional filing fee is due.

A three month extension of time is hereby requested, and a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is filed herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-1394 of Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.